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Item Subject: Press Guidance, 5/23

RELEASED IN FULL

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9-2-94IO PRESS GUIDANCE
May 23, 1994RWANDA:
CURRENT SITUATION

Q. Please provide an update on the fighting and UN peace efforts in Rwanda.

A. -- UN SOURCES CONFIRM REPORTS THAT RPF FORCES YESTERDAY TOOK CONTROL OF THE AIRPORT AND THE NEARBY GOVERNMENT ARMY BARRACKS IN KIGALI. GOVERNMENT FORCES REPORTEDLY WITHDREW FROM THE BARRACKS TO REINFORCE THE CENTER OF THE CITY AGAINST FURTHER ATTACKS THERE.

-- RPF AND GOVERNMENT FORCES HAVE AGREED TO OBSERVE A CEASEFIRE FROM 8 A.M. (KIGALI LOCAL TIME) TODAY UNTIL 6 P.M. TUESDAY TO FACILITATE THE VISIT TO RWANDA OF THE UN DEPUTY HEAD OF PEACEKEEPING, MR. IQBAL RIZA. RIZA PLANS TO MEET WITH BOTH SIDES TO DISCUSS ELEMENTS OF THE NEW SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION ON RWANDA, INCLUDING A CEASEFIRE, THE SIZE OF THE UN FORCE, USE OF KIGALI AIRPORT, AND THE NATURE OF ITS HUMANITARIAN MISSION.

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